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## Of No Benefit to CIA Luster

THE NEED for a thorough review of the practices of the Central Intelligence Agency was never more clearly demonstrated than in Wednesday's "off-the-record" press conference by CIA boss Allen Dulles.

Not only did Dulles' statements fail to square with known facts about the catastrophe in Cuba, but he did his best to undermine the national unity President Kennedy has been working so hard to achieve.

Dulles said, in effect, that everything Kennedy has said was wrong, and besides, if Jack says Allen is one, then nyah, nyah, so is Jack right back.

Which is a pretty shoddy performance from a man charged with gathering and evaluating intelligence reports from all over the world.

Dulles' two major points were that his agency had not misjudged Castro's



Dulles

military might, nor had it misjudged the Cuban people's temper or Castro's control over them.

Yet the CIA trained the troops, picked the leaders, directed the invasion, and even went so far as to keep the Cuban leaders locked up outside Miami while the invasion was going on.

The CIA gave the American people the definite impression that Castro had only half a dozen bombers and a few aging fighters when in truth he had new Czech-built MIGS and trained pilots.

Then, when the revolt failed, the CIA nobly allowed the Cuban leaders to come out of their enforced hiding and take the blame for the mess.

If, as Dulles said, there was no bad judgment by the CIA, why was the invasion allowed to take place? What made the invasion army expect the people to revolt from within except that the CIA told them so?

This latest major blunder, coming on top of a record of miscalculations about Red China's intentions in Korea; Russia's closing of the missile gap, the Soviet invasion of Hungary and the handling of the U-2 affair last May, hardly constitutes a record of confidence.

Yet the CIA is responsible to no one but the President, and Dulles is the only man in the government who can spend his budget without explaining a nickel of it to anyone.

In this day we clearly need an intelligence agency of tough, trained spies and counterspies to compete with the rest of the world. We seriously doubt, though, that we can afford one which not only gathers and evaluates information, but also makes and executes policy with little or no authority, experience or control.